[English]

Review of Schemes

863. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to review the various schemes relating to rural development as also the schemes relating to poverty alleviation;

(b) if so, the names of such schemes and the reasons for their review;

(c) the time by which the review report of the said schemes is likely to be presented;

(d) whether the Government propose to allocate more amount during the current year to States as compared to the last year for States various development programmes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c). Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Schemes such as JRY, EAS, IRDP and Rural Water Supply and DPAP/DP are continuously reviewed through periodical reports. State level Coordination Committee Meetings, Project Director's Workshop etc. Moreover, review is also done through Area Officer scheme under which senior officers are assigned one or two states for review of schemes with a view to improve quality of implementation

Apart from this regular review, there is another proposal to review the schemes.

(d) and (e). Yes, proposals are under consideration for enhancement of allocations under rural development and povery alleviation schemes during 1996-97 compared to 1995-96.

LPG Agencies

864 SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA . Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the number of applications received for allotment of petrol pump/diesel pump and LPG gas agencies in Rajasthan, particularly in Jaipur;

(b) the number of applicant likely to be allotted petrol pump/diesel pump and LPG gas agencies;

(c) the reasons for the delay in sanctioning the same; and

(d) the time by which such allotment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d). A large number of applications have been received by Oil Marketing Companies for 59 Retail Outlet dealerships and 47 LPG distributorships advertised in Rajasthan, out of which 5 Retail Outlet dealerships and 5 LPG distributorships pertain to District Jaipur. It normally takes 1 1/2 years for commissioning a dealership/distributorship after advertisement and selection of the dealer.

Petroleum Products

865. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any institution have conducted exploration work for finding out petroleum products in the country particularly in Kerala in recent years;

(b) if so, the criteria for getting funds to conduct such explorations;

(c) whether the Union Government is aware that the natural gas, which is a by-product of petroleum is being wasted in many of the refineries especially in Bombay and Cochin; and

(d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Apart from the ONGC which has carried out exploration work in the Kerala onland and offshore areas, Govt. of India has also offered blocks to private parties in different parts of India including Kerala - Konkan offshore under the various bidding rounds In ONGC funds for exploration are allocated on the basis of technical and commercial parameters.

(c) and (d) Natural Gas is not produced in a refinery However, while processing crude oil in a refinery, some light gas called "refinery gas" is produced This refinery gas is mostly utilized in refinery processes however, some minimum refinery gas has to be flared from technical and safety consideration in all refineries including those at Bombay and Cochin

[Translation]

Power Consumption

866 SHRIMTI SHEELA GAUTAM Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether eastern area of the country has 50% of the total hydel power capacity but only 2% capacity is being utilised in this area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the special measures proposed to be taken to increase the percentage of utilization of hydel power capacity of that area?